

October 4, 2002

The Federal Communications Commission
c/o Marlene H. Dortch
Commission Secretary
445 12th Street SW, CY-B402,
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: Proceeding 02-306

Dear Commissioners:

As the Mayor of Glendale, I urge your support of SBC Pacific Bell in their efforts to enter California's long distance market. In order for California consumers to benefit from a truly open and fully competitive market, every industry player must be eligible to compete fairly and equitably.

Glendale is the third largest city in Los Angeles County and spans over 30 square miles. An ethnically diverse city, Glendale is known for its rich history, natural beauty and commercial accomplishment. Glendale is home to nearly 200,000 people. Our residents depend on a competitive market that provides a level playing field.

SBC Pacific Bell's entry into long distance comes at a time when the nation's telecommunications industry is in significant turmoil.

Competition in the industry is now the norm, and it is necessary for regulators to apply fair and balanced rules to all providers in order to ensure that competition is based upon investments, technology, and sound business practices.

It is my understanding that the FCC has granted approval for long distance in 23 other states, providing more than 141 million Americans with the benefits of a competitive telecommunications market. Now it is California's turn.

Sincerely,
Rafi Manoukian
Mayor City of Glendale